



EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EV 554214970 US

Attorney Docket No.: 702\_092

PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Joshua Lynn Scott et al.

Serial No.: 10/656,738

Art Unit: 3726

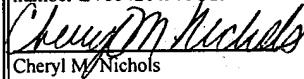
Filed: September 5, 2003

Examiner: Omgbala, E.

Title: TIP TOOL

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to **Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, on March 22, 2006, under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV554214970US.

  
Cheryl M. Nichols

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant submits the following Information Disclosure Statement, and directs the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

The information is presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(a) and § 1.105 (concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information).

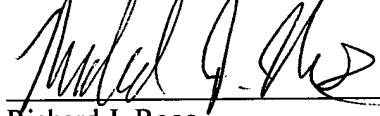
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner expressly consider the information disclosed herein during the prosecution of this application, that the Examiner initial the corresponding box on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A next to each of the considered references, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent which issues from this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g). This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) more than three months from the application's filing date and (2) after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and therefore a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Richard J. Roos  
Reg. No. 45,053

Dated: March 22, 2006

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
Express Mail Label No. EV554214970US				Application Number	10/656,738
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	September 5, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Joshua Lynn Scott et al.
				Art Unit	3726
				Examiner Name	Omgba, E.
				Attorney Docket Number	702_092

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	AA	US-5,685,823		11-11-1997	Ito et al.
	AB	US-5,663,287		01-26-1999	Segawa
	AC	US-			
	AD	US-			
	AE	US-			
	AF	US-			
	AG	US-			
	AH	US-			
	AI	US-			
	AJ	US-			
	AK	US-			
	AL	US-			
	AM	US-			
	AN	US-			
	AO	US-			
	AP	US-			
	AQ	US-			
	AR	US-			
	AS	US-			
	AT	US-			

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>		
	AU				
	AV				
	AW				
	AX				
	AY				
	AZ				
	BA				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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